(c) No, Sir. The Delhi Jail Manual was introduced in the year 1988.

(d) and (e). A core group constituted in pursuance of the recommendations of the National Human Rights Commission has deliberated on the issue of drafting a blue print for prison reforms to form the basis for a Model Prison Manual. The drafting of such a Manual, however, is a longdrawn process, as it involves wideranging consultations with criminal justice functionaries, prison administrators, experts, human rights experts, etc.

Smuggling of Sandalwood

2167. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Police had unearthed the smuggling of Sandalwood worth lakhs of rupees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether further enquiry was conducted in the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to check the smuggling of sandalwood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. On 10th July, 1996, one consignment of 1110 kilogram of sandalwood was caught by the Delhi Police and the case was registered at Desh Bandhu Gupta Road Police Station. The case has been challaned in the Court.

(e) The various steps taken by the Government to check the smuggling of sandalwood are :

(1) The export of sandalwood has been banned in any form but excluding :

(i) Finished and polished handicraft products of sandalwood

(ii) Machine finished sandalwood products, and

(iii) Those forms of sandalwood as specified and subject to the conditions laid down in Public Notice No. 75 dated 8.12.1995 as amended and Public Notice No. 77 dated 1.1.1996 as amended by the Director General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce.

2. The sandalwood producing States have taken up stringent measures to check the illicit fellings, transportation and possession of sandalwood.

Prison Act of 1894

2168. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prison Act of 1894 is still in force in the country;

(b) whether Government have still to evolve guidelines for prison management and update of jail system; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to amend this outdated act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Government, State Governments and various organisations are presently interacting on the possible content of a Bill to cover changes on various aspects of the prison administration.

President's Medal

2169. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the investiture ceremony is held every year to confer the President's Medal for rendering distinguished service by the Prime Minister;

(b) if so, the number of cases in which invitations were not sent to the persons who were for the investiture ceremony during the last two years and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the medals are sent to those recipients who are not invited to the investiture ceremony; and

(d) if so, the number of such cases and through whom these medals were sent during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). No Investiture Ceremony is held at the National level to confer President's Police Medal for distinguished service. The medals are sent to the concerned CPOs/ State Governments for presenting them to the recipients in the way considered appropriate by them.

[Translation]

Production of Fertilizers

2170. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of total quantity of fertilizers produced by each unit of the National Fertilizer Limited during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to augment the production capacity of those units; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?